

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 16417 281253Z

44

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07 L-03

NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-05 SS-15

SP-02 FEAE-00 INT-05 DOTE-00 FMC-02 CG-00 DLOS-04

OIC-02 ERDA-07 /129 W

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R 281241Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5901

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

UNCLAS LONDON 16417

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, EWWT, SENV, PLOS, IMCO

SUBJ: OCEAN DUMPING CONVENTION - FIRST MEETING OF
CONTRACTING PARTIES

REF: STATE 241452

1. DUE PREOCCUPATION WITH OTHER ISSUES OF UK OFFICIALS INVOLVED WITH SUBJECT CONVENTION AND BUSY TRAVEL SCHEDULE OF IMCO SECRETARY GENERAL, EMBOFF HAS JUST RECENTLY HAD MPPORTUNITY DISCUSS POINTS REFTEL WITH THEM.

2. DR. SIMMS (UK DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT) WHO IN CHARGE OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR DUMPING CONVENTION MEETINGS, WOULD NOT OBJECT TO INCLUDING ON DEC. 15-17 MEETING AGENDA QUESTION OF TIMING OF FIRST CONSULTATIVE MEETING UNDER IMCO AUSPICES, HOWEVER, HE CONSIDERS THAT JUNE 1976 DATE WE PROPOSE MAY BE TOO EARLY. SIMMS' PROBLEM WITH DATE STEMS FROM DIFFICULTIES HE WOULD ENCOUNTER IN
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PAGE 02 LONDON 16417 281253Z

STAFFING PREPARATORY WORK FOR MEETING IN LATE SPRING '76.

SIMMS POINTED OUT THAT HE AND OTHERS IN UK GOVERNMENT WHO WOULD BE TASKED WITH PREPARATORY WORK AND WOULD REPRESENT UK AT CONSULTATIVE MEETING ALSO ENGAGED IN LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE FROM MARCH TO MAY '76 AND PREPARATIONS FOR THAT MEETING BEFORE MARCH. IN ADDITION, SIMMS NOTED THERE GOOD POSSIBILITY FOR SECOND LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE MEETING IN FALL OF '76; LOS PREPARATIONS AND ATTENDANCE WOULD LEAVE LITTLE OR NO TIME FOR OCEAN DUMPING MEETING WMRK IN '76 FOR UK REPS, SIMMS BELIEVES. THIS ONLY INITIAL VIEW, AND SIMMS WILL LET US HAVE FURTHER IDEAS IN NEAR FUTURE.

3. CONTRARY TO UK INITIAL VIEW, IMCO SECRETARY GENERAL SRIVASTAVA SHARES OUR ASSESSMENT (REFTEL) THAT FIRST CONSULTATIVE MEETING BE HOSTED BY IMCO AS EARLY AFTER IMCO CHOSEN AS "COMPETENT ORGANIZATION" UNDER ARTICLE 14 AS POSSIBLE. HIS VIEW IS THAT JUNE '76 WHILE ACCEPTABLE IS LATEST DATE SUCH MEETING SHOULD BE HELD.

4. RE IMCO FINANCING OF OCEAN DUMPING MEETINGS, IMCO SECGEN POINTED OUT THAT PROPOSED IMCO BUDGET FOR 76/77 BIENNium MAKES PROVISION FOR TWO MEETING WEEKS FOR OCEAN DUMPING (ONE IN '76 AND ONE IN '77) WHICH HE CONSIDERS SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT FOR FUNDING CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS THIS PERIOD; THUS NO ASSEMBLY ACTION WOULD SEEM NECESSARY IN THIS REGARD.

5. IN REGARD TO IMCO STAFF TO HANDLE OCEAN DUMPING MATTERS, SECGEN CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT TWO POSITIONS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED IN 76/77 BUDGET, WHICH HE HAD CUT IN ATTAINING 5 PERCENT OVERALL REDUCTION DIRECTED BY COUNCIL, SHOULD BE REINSTATED IN VIEW OF EARLY ENTRY INTO FORCE OF CONVENTION. SECGEN POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT HE NOT IN A POSITION TO SUGGEST THIS IF HE IS TO RETAIN ANY CREDIBILITY WITH COUNCIL MEMBERS IN REGARD TO HIS INTENTIONS TO IMPLEMENT BUDGET CUTS HE HAS PROPOSED. HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO ARGUE STRONGLY FOR REINSTATEMENT OF THE POSITIONS IF THE QUESTION WERE RAISED BY MEMBER OF COUNCIL AND CLEARLY INDICATED HE HOPED WE WOULD RAISE THE ISSUE TO GIVE HIM THIS OPPOR-

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PAGE 03 LONDON 16417 281253Z

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6. FURTHER UK VIEWS WILL BE REPORTED WHEN RECEIVED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, WATER POLLUTION, WASTE DISPOSAL, MEETING AGENDA, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON16417
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750373-0533
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751014/aaaaamqy.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 241452
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 SEP 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <10 FEB 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OCEAN DUMPING CONVENTION - FIRST MEETING OF CONTRACTING PARTIES
TAGS: PORG, EWWT, SENV, PLOS, UK, IMCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006